

FILED

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N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION	:	
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
JUSTIN D. STAHL, RN	:	ORDER OF SUSPENSION
License #26NR16111700	:	OF LICENSE
	:	
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN	:	
THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	
	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information indicating the following:

1. Justin D. Stahl ("Respondent") is a Registered Professional Nurse (RN) in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all relevant times. (Exhibit A).
2. Respondent entered into a private letter agreement with the Board on or about December 26, 2013. The agreement

required, in part, that Respondent enroll in the Board's designated intervention program, the Recovery and Monitoring Program of the Institute for Nursing ("RAMP"), to undergo evaluation, monitoring, and treatment, including random urine screens. The agreement, which was to remain private and confidential unless and until the Board received reliable information that Respondent had violated any term, was to have the force and effect of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4. (Exhibit B).

3. By letters dated December 27, 2013 and April 2, 2014, Respondent agreed to have his license to practice inactivated until RAMP supported his return to active practice. (Exhibit C).

4. In early March 2014, RAMP received information indicating that Respondent had worked as a nurse in January 2014 and March 2014 while his license was inactive and/or while RAMP did not support his return to active practice. (Exhibit D).

5. Respondent underwent random hair follicle or urine screens on January 16, 2014, March 27, 2014, May 8, 2014, May 27, 2014, and June 2, 2014 which were positive for opiates hydrocodone, oxycodone, and oxymorphone for which he did not have a prescription. (Exhibit D).

6. Respondent has failed to check-in on a daily basis since June 9, 2014 with the online monitoring system which randomly schedules urine screens. (Exhibit D). On June 18, 2014, Respondent informed RAMP that he was dropping out of the program. (Exhibit D).
7. Respondent failed to attend peer support meetings in June 2014. (Exhibit D).
8. Respondent failed to follow the recommendations of RAMP for further treatment and failed to respond to RAMP's efforts to redirect him towards compliance. (Exhibit D).
9. Due to Respondent's non-compliance, failure to seek treatment, and desire to leave the program, Respondent was discharged from RAMP on June 19, 2014. (Exhibit D). Respondent left RAMP without being released from the program and without successfully completing the program. (Exhibit D).
10. RAMP cannot assure the Board or the public that Respondent is safe to practice. (Exhibit D).
11. On or about June 25, 2014, a communication was sent to Respondent at his address of record by overnight and regular mail, advising Respondent that the Board had received information indicating that he was not in compliance with the private letter agreement and with his agreement with RAMP.

Respondent was further advised to provide the Board with proof of any inaccuracy in that information within two weeks.

(Exhibit E). Respondent failed to reply.

12. The private letter agreement signed by Respondent provided for automatic suspension of Respondent's nursing license upon receipt of reliable information indicating that Respondent had violated any term of the private letter agreement. The agreement states that Respondent may, upon notice to the Board, request a hearing to contest the automatic suspension; however, at any such hearing, the sole issue shall be whether any of the information received regarding Respondent's violation of the agreement was materially false. The Board also reserved the right to bring further disciplinary action. (Exhibit B).

13. Respondent violated the private letter agreement by: failing to refrain from the use of potentially addictive substances as evidenced by his positive urine screens; failing to follow the recommendations of RAMP to limit his nursing practice by working as a nurse when his license was inactive and/or when RAMP had not supported his return to practice; failing to follow the recommendations of RAMP for further treatment; failing to remain in RAMP until successfully

completing the program or being released from the program;  
failing to attend peer support meetings; and engaging in the  
unlicensed practice of nursing, with each violation of the  
private letter agreement constituting a violation of N.J.A.C.  
13:45C-1.4, subjecting Respondent to sanctions pursuant to  
N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e), and automatic suspension of his license as  
provided in the private letter agreement.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of Jul, 2014,

HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State  
of New Jersey is hereby suspended for his violation of the terms  
of the private letter agreement as set forth above, which is a  
violation of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C.  
13:45C-1.4 and N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

2. Respondent may, under the terms of the private letter  
agreement, request a hearing, upon notice, on the sole issue of  
whether information received that Respondent has failed to  
comply with the terms of the private letter agreement was  
materially false.

3. In the event that Respondent seeks reinstatement of his  
New Jersey nursing license at any future time, the Board shall  
not entertain any application for reinstatement without a

demonstration by Respondent that he is fit and competent to practice, in full compliance with the terms and conditions of the private letter agreement and with any agreement with RAMP, and that RAMP supports his reinstatement.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By: Patricia Murphy PhD APN  
Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN  
Board President